

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 05126 061342Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----061344Z 047140 /45

O 061235Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 948
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 5126

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CG, AO, NI
SUBJECT: SHABA: NIGERIAN MEDIATION EFFORT

1. AS HE WAS LEAVING TOWN LATER THIS MORNING, THE BEST I COULD DO ON DEBRIEFING GARBA CONCERNING HIS RECENT VISIT TO LUANDA AND SHABA (HE RETURNED ONLY LAST NIGHT) WAS BRIEF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION. HE SAID HE HAD MADE "A BIT OF PROGRESS" IN HIS MEETINGS WITH NETO AND MOBUTU. THE PRINCIPAL ITEM AT ISSUE IN THESE TALKS APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN PROPOSED BORDER POLICE FORCE. HE SAID THERE WAS "SHARP DISAGREEMENT" BETWEEN MOBUTU, WHO VIEWED SUCH A FORCE AS A PRECONDITION FOR NEGOTIATING WIDE-RANGE OF ZAIRE/ANGOLA BILATERAL PROBLEMS, AND NETO WHO WAS TAKING POSITION THAT BORDER PATROL QUESTION COULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED WITHIN GENERAL CONTEXT OF OVERALL SETTLEMENT. NONETHELESS, BOTH LEADERS HAD AGREED TO GARBA'S PROPOSAL THAT A MINISTERIAL-LEVEL MEETING BE HELD IN LAGOS MONDAY, MAY 9, TO DISCUSS THESE MATTERS FURTHER.

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2. WITH REGARD TO QUESTION OF NORMALIZING RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE US, GARBA SAID HE HAD RAISED THE MATTER AGAIN WITH NETO, WHO ASSURED GARBA HE WANTED TO CONTINUE THE CONTACTS THAT HAD ALREADY BEEN INITIATED. (NETO APPEARED TO GARBA TO HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT ANNOYED BY RESPONSE HE SAID HE RECEIVED FROM EMBASSY WARSAW DURING RECENT VISIT TO POLAND. NETO SAID THAT EMBASSY WARSAW HAD SUGGESTED "TALKING AT A COFFEE BAR.")

3. GARBA ASKED THAT WE HOLD INFORMATION ABOUT NEXT WEEK'S
MINISTERIAL MEETING VERY CLOSELY.
EASUM

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INVASIONS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LAGOS05126
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770159-0994
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770586/aaaacwbq.tel
Line Count: 66
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0dbe8a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2618110
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHABA: NIGERIAN MEDIATION EFFORT
TAGS: PFOR, CG, AO, NI
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0dbe8a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009